



2017-2018

Number 30

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## **An Lester Trumach - The Packet Ship**

*Dear Parents*

*The report of the Ofsted inspection carried out at Marlborough on 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2018 has been published on the Ofsted website this morning and it can also be found on the school's website. We have as well sent parents a copy by email, along with a covering letter from the school governors.*

*For those of you who met the inspectors, or who were in school during the two days of inspection, you will probably already be aware that the experience as well as the outcome of the process was very different to our previous inspection. Whereas the 2014 team sought out the school's strengths, it felt this time that the inspection was looking for our faults and weaknesses, and the tone of the final report would confirm that. This is not to say that we do not accept entirely the statement that Marlborough school Requires Improvement. Indeed, even throughout the Outstanding grade, it is fair to say that the school has always embraced and sought to improve in everything that we do for the children and families of our community: guidance as to what we need to do better, detailed in this latest report, coincides with conclusions drawn from our own evaluation, the local authority monitoring inspection we requested in 2017 and the Instead Review commissioned at the beginning of this school year.*

*Some aspects criticised this time were ignored by the earlier report and, although we knew that SATs scores dipped, had shared this with parents and introduced measures to address concerns. Marlborough's School Development Plan (SDP) has prioritised the use of assessment and feedback aiming to strengthen teaching and learning and it is unfortunate that the timing of the inspection was unable to recognise the impact of the steps taken in these areas over the past year. I think the language of the report is unfortunate too: were teachers to feed back to children with the negativity that Ofsted can employ, I think we would all be concerned at the harm this could potentially cause. However, there are beneficial messages and guidance in the report that have already proved useful in ensuring that we can address SDP priorities with increased rigour. I have been so impressed by the teaching and support teams and the response of the governors over the past few weeks as we have addressed necessary actions and planned for the way ahead. There is, as ever, a strong sense of purpose among staff and the post inspection plan is quickly taking shape as it so closely mirrors and consolidates the priorities we had already identified. Issues raised had to do with systems and we can be confident that the team here, as remarked by so many professionals who visit Marlborough, keeps children – their happiness, well-being and learning – at the heart of the school's purpose. The inspectors recognised this too: in their feedback to governors they acknowledged that the capacity to improve lies within the school team. I am proud of the commitment, resilience and strength of character of the Marlborough team – staff; governors; parents and children. Thank you for all the support you continue to give us. I am looking forward to taking the next steps as together we work to ensure that the 2018 report serves as a valuable tool in the continuing story of our school.*

*Roganier*

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## Tag Rugby Tournament

Cornwall RFU invited Marlborough to take part in the special county match day tournament again on Saturday. This year there were a number of club sides taking part, which on one fixture set us up against the rest of Falmouth. The early part of the tournament took place on the training fields at Camborne, with the final games on the main pitch during half time. The children also formed the welcoming tunnel as the Cornwall and Devon sides ran on to the pitch.

Unfortunately, Cornwall lost 19-20.



Packet Points						
Last Week				Total		
1 <sup>st</sup>	Swiftsure	33	7	1 <sup>st</sup>	Fox	24
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Fox	32	5	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Chichester	20
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Chichester	25	4	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Swiftsure	20
4 <sup>th</sup>	Freeling	19	3	4 <sup>th</sup>	Walsingham	10
	Walsingham	19	2	5 <sup>th</sup>	Freeling	9
6 <sup>th</sup>	Pelham	18	1	6 <sup>th</sup>	Pelham	7

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